

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM J. PERRY
 INTERVIEW WITH HARRY SMITH ON CBS-TV PROGRAM, "THIS MORNING"
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Dominican Republic now have an agreement to patrol the Haitian border to control smuggling or potential smuggling along there. What might that entail? And how many U.S. troops will be involved, deployed?

SEC. PERRY: The U.N. will have just under 100 observers to this operation, of which about half will be U.S. These are the observers to the operation. The actual operation itself, which is checking the borders and stopping the smugglers, will be done by Dominican Republic soldiers and police. The U.N. role is to provide the observers and also to provide equipment. The United States is providing some helicopters, some boats, some night vision equipment, some communication equipment.

MR. SMITH: Okay, just in --

SEC. PERRY: (Inaudible.)

MR. SMITH: Okay, just in the last 48 hours or so, the U.N. has given a green light for an invasion of Haiti. Is the United States ready to invade Haiti?

SEC. PERRY: The United States has not made a decision. The president has not made a decision to invade. But he has put the Defense Department on notice, and we are ready.

MR. SMITH: Is there a timetable?

SEC. PERRY: I cannot discuss the schedule, Harry, I'm sorry.

MR. SMITH: Have you seen any significant movement from Raul Cedras that would indicate to you his willingness to leave the country, his willingness to leave his position of power?

SEC. PERRY: The signs, the signals which we see from Haiti, are ambiguous and difficult for me to interpret.

MR. SMITH: And does that give you any belief that the tougher sanctions over the last several months are working and are any more effective than the sanctions that were in place before?

SEC. PERRY: I think we need some more time on those sanctions. We're just now beginning to tighten up the Dominican Republic, as we discussed earlier. That will make a difference. The financial sanctions are starting to bite now. The airline service has just stopped. All of those things are going to make a

HARRY SMITH: Segment One this morning: Hot spots for the secretary of defense. William Perry has just returned from Rwanda and the refugee camps along its borders. Now he has to deal with another crisis in this hemisphere, a possible invasion of Haiti. And Secretary Perry is live at the Pentagon this morning.

Good morning, Mr. Secretary.

SEC. PERRY: Good morning, Harry. Nice to talk to you.

MR. SMITH: Thanks for joining us. Let's first talk about Haiti. We are to understand this morning that the United States and the

difference. And I think it's important to give those increased efforts, increased sanctions, increased effectiveness of sanctions, a chance to work before any other action is considered.

MR. SMITH: I just have a final question on Haiti, if you will, and that is to assume for a second that we were to invade Haiti, Cedras and his folks were removed from power. Would we escort Aristide back to Haiti? And who then would help him enforce his rule?

SEC. PERRY: The "we" in this case is the United Nations. The United Nations has, first of all, authorized the member states to form an intervention force. They also have authorized the formation of a peacekeeping force which would go in afterwards to maintain the order in the country. So this would be a U.N. function, not a U.S. function.

MR. SMITH: Let's move on to Rwanda. You were just there over the weekend. There are U.S. troops now on the ground in Kigali. The airport has opened there. We have about 200 troops in Kigali right now, I'm to understand. How long might they have to stay? Do you have any idea?

SEC. PERRY: Well, first of all, understand that what the United States military is doing is providing its very unique airlift to support this overall international operation. The international operation, run by the U.N., run by private relief organizations, could go on for a long time; a year or two. It's hard to say. The U.S. part of that, though, which is providing this very specialized airlift we have, should be a much shorter time period than that. We're here to -- we will phase out as soon as our unique capabilities are over with.

MR. SMITH: There is some reluctance on refugees to go back into Rwanda, and the Tutsis have promised that there will be no retaliation for people who return. Do you think they are to be trusted?

SEC. PERRY: Well, let me say, first of all, that it was not the Tutsis that promised no retaliation. It was the Rwandan government. In fact, the president of Rwanda himself made that statement. The president is a Hutu. So this is a -- the Rwandan government is making that

statement. They've said that they welcome the refugees back, that there will be no reprisals.

I think one of the big problems that we have now -- that is, the government and the United Nations -- is getting that message out to the refugees. The government is starting to broadcast that over their government radio. The United Nations has decided that they want to start broadcasting that message to get the refugees back. And we have offered, in response to requests from Mrs. Ogada, the head of the United Nations relief operation, that we have offered to provide some technical and equipment assistance in doing that.

MR. SMITH: All right. Mr. Secretary, we thank you for joining us this morning; do appreciate it.

SEC. PERRY: Thank you, Harry. Nice to talk to you.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

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